

REMARKS

Claims 1-21, 24-27, 30-32, 35-39, 42-44, 47-51, 72 and 73 were pending. Claims 1-13, 21-29, 33-34 and 40-73 were or have been cancelled without prejudice. Thus, only claims 14-20, 30-32 and 35-39 remain pending.

The Examiner in the final Office Action allowed claims 14-20, 30-32 and 35-39. As such, to expedite the issuance of a patent on these claims, Applicants have cancelled all of the other claims without prejudice to be pursued in a subsequent application. While this issue is now moot, Applicants maintain that these cancelled claims are patentable for the reasons presented in Applicants' previously filed response.

No additional fees are believed due. However, if any additional fees are necessary, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

If there are any outstanding issues which would prevent the issuance of a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned counsel for a telephone interview.

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Respectfully submitted,

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